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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/440,829	11/15/1999	ALEX CHENCHIK	CLON-015	3481

24353 7590 12/08/2003

BOZICEVIC, FIELD & FRANCIS LLP
200 MIDDLEFIELD RD
SUITE 200
MENLO PARK, CA 94025

EXAMINER

FORMAN, BETTY J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1634

DATE MAILED: 12/08/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action

Application No.

09/440,829

Applicant(s)

CHENCHIK ET AL.

Examiner

BJ Forman

Art Unit

1634

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 19 November 2003 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

- a) ☐ The period for reply expires _____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection. ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. ☒ A Notice of Appeal was filed on 19 November 2003. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. ☒ The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
- (a) ☒ they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
- (b) ☐ they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
- (c) ☐ they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
- (d) ☐ they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: See Continuation Sheet.

3. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
4. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
5. ☐ The a) ☐ affidavit, b) ☐ exhibit, or c) ☐ request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: _____.
6. ☐ The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
7. ☒ For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) ☒ will not be entered or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:


Claim(s) allowed: _____.

Claim(s) objected to: _____.

Claim(s) rejected: 1-3, 7-23 and 35.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

8. ☐ The drawing correction filed on _____ is a) ☐ approved or b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
9. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.
10. ☐ Other: _____


BJ Forman
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 1634

Continuation of 2. NOTE:

The amendments further limit the claims to "spots...have a density of at least about 10/cm²". This limitation has not been previously considered and therefore would require further search and consideration.

Response to Arguments:

Applicant argues (pointing to the MPEP) that in view of the unexpected results discussed in the Declaration filed 17 March 2003, the range of probe lengths taught by Chrisey et al. do not anticipate the instantly claimed probe lengths. The Declaration filed 17 March 2003 was discussed in the Final Office Action dated 20 June 2003. The Declaration was not found sufficient to provide evidence of unexpected results because the evidence provided in the Declaration illustrates an improved signal as the probe length increases from 40 to 100 nucleotides in length (Exhibit B) and improved signal of 80-mers compared to 200-700mers (Exhibit C). The claims are drawn to probe lengths of 60 to 120 and the prior art exemplifies 57mers. The Declaration does not provide evidence that the claimed 60- 120 length provides an unexpectedly improved signal over the 57mer known in the art. As such, the Declaration does not provide sufficient evidence to illustrate unexpected results for the claimed probe lengths and to overcome the outstanding rejections .

Regarding Ebersole, Applicant argues that the instantly amended claims are drawn to a microarray having a minimum density of 10 spots/cm² and because Ebersole does not teach a microarray having the claimed limitations, they cannot anticipate or obviate the instant claims. The argument has been considered but is not found persuasive because the argument addresses the unentered amendments but does not address the previous rejection. Therefore the argument is moot regarding the rejected claims...



**BJ FORMAN, PH.D.
PRIMARY EXAMINER**